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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Blackout, Detroit Water Issues on Agenda

Senators to Hold Hearings on Viability of Current Infrastructure

LANSING – Hearings were announced today by state Sen. Laura Toy’s office to address, and hear testimony on, the massive electrical blackout that struck most of the Detroit metropolitan area last month as well as the administration of the water supplied by the city of Detroit to surrounding cities.

Toy, R-Livonia, vice chairwoman of the Senate Technology and Energy Committee, attended hearings in Lansing looking at the electrical grid, but said other issues involving utilities also need to be addressed.

“What happened to the electrical grid left people wondering what went wrong,” Toy said, chairwoman of the Senate’s Local, Urban and State Affairs Committee, which will host the hearing. “Why should we wait for a massive failure in the delivery of other utilities?”

The ongoing dispute about Detroit’s monopoly over the area’s water system raises questions about whether the current system is capable, and accountable, for a major malfunction similar to the blackout.

“We need to make sure that customers – who are paying for the services – are able to get what they’re paying for. I am assuming, of course, that receiving potable water is every bit as important to our citizens as receiving electricity.”

WHO: Senate Committee on Local, Urban and State Affairs.

DATE & TIME: Monday, September 22, 6:30 P.M.

WHERE: Macomb County Community College
44575 Garfield Rd.
Clinton Township
Student Community Center (Building K), Room K-137